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# Energy Analysis Seminar Series

*A "brown bag" analytical seminar series*

## **Implications of Regional Transmission Organizations for Renewable Energy Technologies**

Kevin Porter

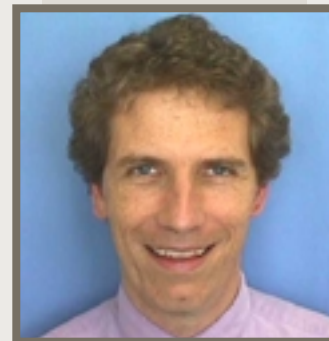
Exeter Associates, Inc.

Thursday, April 11

Noon–1 p.m.

While many states are reassessing electricity restructuring in the wake of last year's meltdown in California, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) is moving aggressively toward restructuring wholesale transmission service and markets. A current FERC initiative builds on previous efforts to push utilities into joining or forming a regional transmission organization (RTO)—which can be advantageous for renewable energy technologies. RTOs broaden the available geographic market for selling power and may remove the heavy impact of additive ("pancaked") transmission charges if power is transmitted over multiple systems. However, RTO arrangements and market rules may present new problems and hurdles for renewable energy technologies. This seminar will examine the rapidly moving RTO arena and consider some of the implications for renewable energy technologies.

**Kevin Porter** is a senior analyst with the consulting firm Exeter Associates, Inc. His scope of work and expertise includes the technical and economic status of renewable energy technologies; design and implementation of state and federal renewable energy policies; transmission access and pricing for renewable energy technologies; and electric restructuring in general. Before joining Exeter, Mr. Porter was a senior policy analyst with the National Renewable Energy Laboratory's Washington, D.C., office. He holds a B.S. in environmental studies from Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Oregon, and an M.A. in economics from The American University in Washington, D.C.



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